

Public Forum to Discuss the *Draft* *Franklin County Section of the* Connecticut River Scenic Byway Corridor Management Plan Update



Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 29, 2016

Time: 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Location: Sunderland Library, Community Room
20 School Street, Sunderland, MA

With funding provided by the National Scenic Byway Program, the Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG), and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission (PVPC) are developing an updated Corridor Management Plan for the Connecticut River Scenic Byway. **The FRCOG is seeking your input on the draft plan for the Franklin County section of the Byway!**

The Connecticut River Scenic Byway travels through Northfield, Erving, Montague, Sunderland, Hadley and South Hadley. There is also a proposal to designate the byway in the town of Hatfield. Please visit the FRCOG's website at www.frcog.org to review the draft plan.

If you would like more information on the meeting or the plan, please contact either Elizabeth Giannini at the Franklin Regional Council of Governments at 413-774-3167 ext. 125 or via e-mail at Giannini@frcog.org.

Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization meetings are conducted in accessible locations, and materials can be provided in accessible formats and in languages other than English. If you would like accessibility or language accommodation, please contact the Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization at 413-774-3167 (voice) (MA Relay System:800-439-2370), 413-774-3169 (fax), or mrhodes@frcog.org (e-mail). The Franklin Regional Council of Governments has posted information for the public regarding the Franklin County Transportation Planning Organization's Title VI obligations and protections against discrimination afforded to the public by Title VI on the website.

Notice of Nondiscrimination Rights and Protections to Beneficiaries

Federal "Title VI/Nondiscrimination" Protections

The Franklin Regional Council of Governments (FRCOG) operates its programs, services, and activities in compliance with federal nondiscrimination laws including Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Title VI), the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987, and related statutes and regulations. Title VI prohibits discrimination in federally assisted programs and requires that no person in the United States of America shall, on the grounds of race, color, or national origin (including limited English proficiency), be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity receiving federal assistance. Related federal nondiscrimination laws administered by the Federal Highway Administration, the Federal Transit Administration, or both prohibit discrimination on the basis of age, sex, and disability. These protected categories are contemplated within FRCOG's Title VI Programs consistent with federal interpretation and administration. Additionally, FRCOG provides meaningful access to its programs, services, and activities to individuals with limited English proficiency, in compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation policy and guidance on federal Executive Order 13166.

State Nondiscrimination Protections

FRCOG also complies with the Massachusetts Public Accommodation Law, M.G.L c 272 §§ 92a, 98, 98a, prohibiting making any distinction, discrimination, or restriction in admission to or treatment in a place of public accommodation based on race, color, religious creed, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, disability, or ancestry. Likewise, FRCOG complies with the Governor's Executive Order 526, section 4 requiring all programs, activities, and services provided, performed, licensed, chartered, funded, regulated, or contracted for by the state shall be conducted without unlawful discrimination based on race, color, age, gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, religion, creed, ancestry, national origin, disability, veteran's status (including Vietnam-era veterans), or background.